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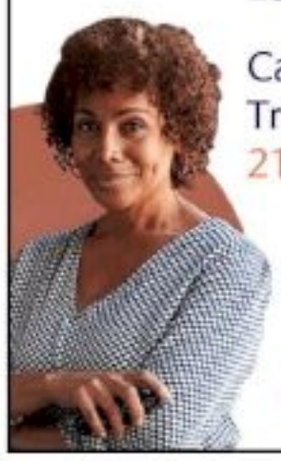

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BAGHDADI DEAD

Terrorist committed suicide Sunday while fleeing U.S. elite forces in northwest Syria. The Islamic State leader detonated an explosives-laden vest, killing himself and his three children. 2

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Trump announces grisly death of Islamic State leader Baghdadi during U.S. raid

Suicide occurred when Baghdadi reached dead end of a tunnel.

U.S. President Donald Trump makes a statement at the White House following reports that U.S. forces attacked Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (inset) in northern Syria. GETTY IMAGES

U.S. President Donald Trump on Sunday announced that Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi killed himself during a daring overnight raid by elite U.S. special operations forces in Syria, in a major victory as he fights a Democratic-led impeachment inquiry.

Baghdadi died alongside three of his children by detonating an explosives-laden vest when he fled U.S. forces into a dead-end tunnel during the attack, which took place in the Idlib region in northwest Syria, the Republican president said in a televised address to the nation from the White House.

Under Iraqi-born Baghdadi's rule, Islamic State – which at one point controlled swathes of Syria and Iraq – was responsible for gruesome attacks against religious minorities and attacks on five continents in the name of a form of ultra-fanatical Islam.

"Last night the United States brought the world's No.1 terrorist leader to justice," Trump said in extended remarks describing the raid.

U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper said the goal of the operation had been to capture Baghdadi if possible but kill him if necessary.

Esper said two U.S. forces suffered minor injuries during the operation but have already returned to duty. Trump said a military dog was wounded.

A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the operation was staged from an airbase in western Iraq.

The death of Baghdadi was an important win for Trump weeks after his sudden decision to withdraw U.S. troops from Syria sparked a wave of harsh criticism, including from fellow Republicans, that the move would lead to a resurgence of Islamic State, which is also known as ISIS.

"The thug who tried so hard to intimidate others spent his last moments in utter fear, panic and dread, terrified of the American forces coming down on him," Trump said.

> **"The thug who tried so hard to intimidate others spent his last moments in utter fear, panic and dread, terrified of the American forces coming down on him."**
>
> Donald Trump

"He reached the end of the tunnel as our dogs chased him down. He ignited his vest, killing himself and his three children. His body was mutilated by the blasts. The tunnel had caved on him," he added.

Russia opened up its airspace for the raid and Kurdish allies gave some helpful information, according to Trump, who watched the operation unfold with Vice President Mike Pence and others.

Trump said the raid would not change his decision to withdraw troops from Syria. U.S. forces included the elite Delta Force, a U.S. official told Reuters.

Trump indicated that killing Baghdadi was a greater achievement than the 2011 U.S. operation during the administration of Democratic President Barack Obama that killed al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, who planned the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

"Bin Laden was a big thing, but this (Baghdadi) is the biggest there is. This is the worst ever," Trump said.

The Baghdadi raid put the spotlight on Trump's uneasy relationship with the U.S. intelligence community. He praised the role of intelligence officials in laying the groundwork for the attack, saying that is the type of activity it should be focused on.

Trump has taken issue with the intelligence community on various issues, including its conclusion that Russian meddling in the 2016 election was aimed at helping him win.

REUTERS

Actress Felicity Huffman released from prison early

2 Actress Felicity Huffman, the first parent in the U.S. college admissions cheating scandal to go to prison, was released from a California facility on Friday, before the end of her 14-day sentence, a prison spokeswoman said. The "Desperate Housewives" star was scheduled to be let out on Sunday, but the spokeswoman cited a policy that allows for the early release of inmates whose release day is on a weekend. Huffman, 56, an Academy Award nominee, turned herself in to authorities at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, California, on Oct. 15. U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani had sentenced her to serve two weeks behind bars after Huffman pleaded guilty to conspiracy related to her payment of $15,000 to have someone secretly correct answers on her daughter Sophia's SAT college entrance test.

REUTERS

EU hopes to endorse Brexit delay to Jan. 31

3 The 27 European Union countries that will remain after Brexit hope to agree on Monday to delay Britain's divorce until Jan.31 with an earlier departure possible should the factious UK parliament ratify their separation deal, sources said. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson last week reluctantly requested the three-month delay until the end of January, 2020, after the parliament's lower House of Commons refused to swiftly approve a new Brexit deal he had agreed with the bloc. Any postponement to Brexit can only be granted unanimously by the 27 and French objections have so far prevented a decision as Johnson spars with lawmakers over calling an early election. Diplomatic sources told Reuters the bloc's 27 EU ambassadors would meet at 09:00 GMT on Monday in Brussels to agree on the three-month delay from the current Brexit date of Oct. 31.

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Demonstrators take part in a protest over corruption, lack of jobs and poor services, in Baghdad, Iraq. REUTERS

Defying crackdown, thousands of Iraqis keep protesting

At least 69 protesters were killed Friday and Saturday.

Thousands of Iraqi protesters stood fast in Baghdad's central Tahrir Square on Sunday, defying a bloody crackdown that killed scores over the weekend and an overnight raid by security forces seeking to disperse them.

Young men had erected barricades on a bridge leading to the capital's fortified Green Zone against security forces who continued to lob tear gas canisters toward them. Medical and security sources said 42 people had been injured.

"We give you our life and blood, Iraq," they chanted.

At least 69 Iraqis were killed on Friday and Saturday and hundreds wounded as demonstrators clashed with security forces and militia groups in a second wave of this month's protests against Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi's government. About 226 people have been killed in October.

"I ask you Abdul Mahdi, it's been 16 years and you've done nothing. We're going from bad to worse," said Ma'azir Yas, who had wrapped herself in an Iraqi flag. "This protest is peaceful and the young men only ask for their rights: jobs and services."

Protesters were locked in a cycle on Sunday of advancing deeper into Tahrir Square and toward the Green Zone which houses government buildings, then retreating when the barrage of tear gas canisters became too much.

The smell of the gas was potent in all corners of the square as security forces fired it indiscriminately and directly at protesters, not into the air.

Many used creative ways to defend themselves including one protester who used a satellite dish as a shield. Tuk-tuks swarmed around, carrying injured young men to ambulances.

"I ask you Abdul Mahdi, it's been 16 years and you've done nothing. We're going from bad to worse. This protest is peaceful and the young men only ask for their rights: jobs and services."

Ma'azir Yas

Despite the OPEC member country's vast oil wealth, many Iraqis live in poverty or have limited access to clean water, electricity, basic healthcare and education. Iraq is struggling to recover from years of conflict following the U.S.-led invasion in 2003 that overthrew dictator Saddam Hussein.

Iraqis blame a political elite they say is subservient to one or other of Iraq's two main allies, the United States and Iran. Many suspect these powers use Iraq as a proxy to pursue their struggle for regional influence, without concern for the needs of ordinary people.

Young men cleaning up the square said they feared a repeat of Saturday night's crackdown by security forces, when the demonstrations in Tahrir Square were broken up with tear gas and stun grenades. Some protesters have regrouped.

Iraq's elite Counter-Terrorism Service said on Sunday it had deployed in the streets of Baghdad to protect important state buildings "from undisciplined elements."

Security sources told Reuters Saturday that the Service's forces in Baghdad had been told to "use all necessary measures" to end the protests. REUTERS

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Nguyen Dinh Gia, father of Vietnamese Joseph Nguyen Dinh Luong who is one of the suspected victims of the 39 people found dead in a refrigerated truck in Britain, is seen at his home in Ha Tinh province, Vietnam. REUTERS

Vietnam police take DNA from relatives of suspected truck victims

Many of the victims lacked identifying documents.

Police in Vietnam took hair and blood samples on Sunday to get DNA from relatives of people feared to be among the 39 who died in the back of a truck near London last week, their family members said.

The bodies were found on Wednesday in a truck container in Grays, about 32 km (20 miles) east of central London and British police are still trying to establish the identity of victims who in many cases lacked identity documents.

In a poor rice-growing area of northern Vietnam, communities have been plunged into mourning with their hope all but lost for relatives who had set out to seek better lives in Europe and were thought to have been aboard the truck.

The hashtag #RIP39 was trending in Vietnam on widely-used Facebook.

Distraught, Nguyen Dinh Gia said he feared there was very little chance he would ever again see his 20-year-old son, Nguyen Dinh Luong, who had been trying to get to Britain after first making it to France.

"Police from the Ministry of Public Security came to get DNA samples, our hair and blood," Nguyen Dinh Gia told Reuters at Can Loc in Ha Tinh province, where sympathizers gathered at the simple house amid lush rice fields to console the family.

"I advised him not to go because I told him that even though our family had always had nothing and our children were always in hardship, but we brought them up just fine," Nguyen said.

The father of Pham Thi Tra My, who sent a last text message to her family in the early hours of Wednesday Vietnam time, said police had also been to collect samples of blood and hair.

70%

Some 70% of Vietnamese trafficking cases in the United Kingdom between 2009-2016 were for labor exploitation, including cannabis production and work in nail salons, according to a British government report last year.

Vietnam's government did not respond immediately for a request for comment. Vietnam's prime minister has called for an investigation into the case.

Police in Britain said on Saturday they had charged one man, 25-year-old Maurice Robinson of Craigavon in Northern Ireland, with 39 counts of manslaughter and other offences including conspiracy to traffic people.

On Sunday, police said three people arrested in connection with the investigation had been released on bail. All three had been questioned on suspicion of manslaughter and conspiracy to traffic people.

Initially, British police believed the victims were Chinese, but later sought help from the Vietnamese community. Chinese and Vietnamese officials were both working closely with British police, the countries' embassies said.

A Catholic priest in the remote town of Yen Thanh in Nghe An province said on Saturday that he believed most of the dead were likely from Vietnam.

British police have said very few of the victims were carrying official identification and that they hope to identify the dead through fingerprints, dental records and DNA, as well as photos from friends and relatives.

In the predominantly Catholic area of northern Vietnam from which the suspected victims came, churches held candle-lit prayers at the weekend.

How the victims came to be in the truck is not yet known.

The families of the suspected victims were in Nghe An and Ha Tinh, two of the poorest provinces in communist Vietnam. REUTERS

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Pope Francis leads a Mass to close a three-week synod of Amazonian bishops at the Vatican. REUTERS

Pope, closing synod, decries plundering of the Amazon

New proposal would allow married men in Amazon to be ordained.

Pope Francis on Sunday called for an end to the plundering of the Amazon basin, as he closed an assembly of Roman Catholic bishops who discussed the challenges the Church faces in the region.

The work of the assembly, known as a synod, ended on Saturday night with a final document containing a proposal that married men in the remote area be allowed to be ordained as priests.

The milestone proposal could lead to a landmark change in the Church's centuries-old discipline of celibacy.

One of the other themes of the three-week synod was the environmental protection of the Amazon and respect for its indigenous peoples and their cultures.

In his sermon at a closing Mass in St. Peter's Basilica, Francis criticized those who consider indigenous people "backward and of little worth" instead of acknowledging what their cultures can teach others.

"They despise their traditions, erase their history, occupy their lands, and usurp their goods. How much alleged superiority, transformed into oppression and exploitation, exists even today!" he said.

"The mistakes of the past were not enough to stop the plundering of other persons and the inflicting of wounds on our brothers and sisters and on our sister Earth: we have seen it in the scarred face of the Amazon region," he said.

The synod's final document warned of the risks to the Amazon basin from mining and deforestation, which scientists say increases the threat of global warming.

The bishops proposed that the Church define what would constitute the "ecological sin" of harming the environment and also introduce specific ministries for the care of nature.

The pope will consider the proposals, including an expanded role for women, in writing his own document, known as an Apostolic Exhortation. He said he hopes to have it ready by the end of the year.

At the Mass, attended by indigenous people from the Amazon, Francis also appeared to take a swipe at conservatives who have attacked parts of the synod's working document as heretical.

Opponents of Francis, inspired by the writings of two cardinals, held several side events during the synod. They took particular umbrage at the use of an indigenous statue of a pregnant woman at an opening event, saying that was pagan.

The pope asked forgiveness for what he considered an insult to the indigenous after ultra-conservative Catholic militants stole replicas of the statue and dumped them into the Tiber River.

In his sermon, Francis spoke of "those masters of the art of self-justification" and those seeking "self-canonization." REUTERS

> **"The mistakes of the past were not enough to stop the plundering of other persons and the inflicting of wounds on our brothers and sisters and on our sister Earth: we have seen it in the scarred face of the Amazon region."**
>
> Pope Francis

A day in the life of an Alzheimer's caregiver

WRITTEN BY
Amy Smith

If you've ever loved someone with Alzheimer's disease, you already know the toll it can take on a family. As the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, it kills more people than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined. In fact, one in three seniors dies with Alzheimer's or some other form of dementia.

A prevalent stereotype is one of fragility, but many who are battling the disease are physically able. Another little-known reality for many caregivers is watching someone they love undergo major personality changes. Alzheimer's disease has a way of hijacking the brain and altering core personality traits.

Renee Odrick knows this all too well. The Delaware resident began caring for her mother four years ago when she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Since then, her mom has suffered more than just memory changes.

"Growing up, my mom was always a direct, bold person, but now it's coupled with nastiness," says Odrick. "She calls us names and says derogatory things; so much so that my youngest child doesn't like to be in a room with her alone. I have to remind my children that this isn't her."

Not taking these things personally is difficult, especially for Odrick's children. It's very much a day-by-day way of being that requires patience, compassion and resilience. Odrick and her family had been walking this path alone until they discovered the Alzheimer's Association.

"Before I knew about the Alzheimer's Association, I really had limited resources for information," she says. "I've reached out to the Alzheimer's Association to get support and ask questions. When I had issues with her not wanting to bathe, for example, they provided me with tips for what to do."

Perhaps the greatest gift the organization has given Odrick is a sense of belonging. "When caring for someone with Alzheimer's, it can sometimes feel like you're out here alone," she adds. "When I see there are thousands and thousands of others, it gives me comfort to know that I'm not alone. There are people I can talk to who can relate and who've had the same issues, and that sense of community is valuable to me."

Odrick has since become a team captain for Faithwalkers, a Philadelphia Walk to End Alzheimer's team. The event, taking place on Sunday, November 10 at Citizens Bank Park, is a fundraising effort aimed at not only bringing awareness to our local community, but raising dollars for Alzheimer's research and programs to support the nearly 300,000 people in the Delaware Valley region who are affected by dementia. Odrick says that joining the walk has helped her and her siblings build a better connection around their mother's care.

"Now that I've drawn them into the walk, I'm hoping it'll help us to communicate more and get more help because my family really does it all," she says. "We're all that she has."

Watching her mother's decline has been heart-wrenching for Odrick, especially since learning that her maternal grandfather also passed away with Alzheimer's. Her driving force is doing all she can to someday reverse the disease in her family. This is what brought her to TrialMatch, a free, easy-to-use clinical studies matching service. It's vital work—these trials are critical in developing the next generation of Alzheimer's treatments.

"I signed up for TrialMatch to see if there are ways my family and I can learn more,"

says Odrick. "For us, it's about being in a place of understanding. I let my children know that Alzheimer's is a serious aliment that has no rhyme or reason. It has no specific people it picks out, so the more we know, the more equipped we are."

To learn more about the Philadelphia Walk to End Alzheimer's, visit act.alz.org/philadelphia or call 800.272.3900.

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A man runs among the tear gas during a protest in Hong Kong's tourism district of Tsim Sha Tsui, China. REUTERS

Hong Kong protesters hurl petrol bombs after police fire tear gas to clear rally

Events took place on the 21st consecutive weekend of protests.

Hong Kong anti-government protesters set fire to shops and hurled petrol bombs on Sunday, police said, after riot police fired tear gas, water cannon and rubber bullets to disperse thousands in the Tsim Sha Tsui harbor-front hotel district.

The protesters, many in all-black clothing and face-masks now banned under a resurrected British colonial-era law, had gathered to denounce perceived police brutality during more than four months of often-violent unrest in the Chinese-ruled city.

It was the 21st straight weekend of protests, marked by a notable rise in the jeering and verbal abuse of police but not in the scale of violence. Police said one man was beaten up by "masked rioters."

"The police warn all rioters to stop all illegal acts immediately," they said in a statement.

But cat-and-mouse chases continued into the night, with protesters running away from water cannon and tear gas, only to re-appear seconds or minutes later.

There was a standoff as dusk fell, with protesters, bemused tourists and passers-by gathered on the pavements of the shopping and hotel artery of Nathan Road, which police had earlier cleared in slow-moving cordons.

Riot police stood by outside the Chungking Mansions high-rise warren of South Asian restaurants and backpacker hostels, shields and batons at the ready. Protesters shouted obscenities in colorful Cantonese at "black police," referring to their perceived over-use of force.

"Fight for Hong Kong!" protesters shouted, "five demands, not one less," a reference to demands for universal suffrage and an independent inquiry into police actions, among other things.

Police later moved away, leaving protesters, pedestrians and tourists alike to take over the street under the neon lights. Then one water cannon moved in, firing high into the air and down side-streets.

Police said protesters later hurled petrol bombs at a police station in Sham Shui Po, northwest of Tsim Sha Tsui, and set fire to shops in Jordan, north along Nathan Road from the harbor.

Reuters witnesses saw two MTR entrances on fire in Mong Kok.

The number of protesters had grown by the minute earlier in the afternoon, streaming down Nathan Road to the water's edge, in front of the dramatic backdrop of Hong Kong island, but many fled after the tear gas and pepper spray were fired.

Ambulances took one man away on a stretcher. The need for treatment was not immediately clear.

Police detained some protesters as they gathered in a rally that had not received official permission. The crowds at the waterfront had largely dispersed after a couple of hours and headed north up Nathan Road, where many luxury brand shops closed their shutters, toward Jordan and Mong Kok.

The rallying cry of the protesters was also for the protection of "Muslims, journalists and the people."

Billy, 26, said "Hong Kong people, regardless of our religion ... we come here to say no to our totalitarian government." REUTERS

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A local holds a card with a picture of Mozambique's president and leader of the Frelimo Party, Filipe Nyusi. REUTERS

Mozambique's Nyusi retains power after sweeping victory in disputed poll

Mozambique's incumbent President Filipe Nyusi has won a landslide victory in an election it was hoped would calm tensions in a nation soon to become a top global gas exporter, but has instead stoked divisions as opposition parties cry foul.

Nyusi secured 73% of the vote in the presidential race, the National Election Commission (CNE) said on Sunday, while his party, the ruling Frelimo, also won big in the legislative and provincial contests.

Ossufo Momade, candidate for former guerrilla movement turned main opposition party Renamo, which has already rejected the outcome, trailed with 21.88% of the vote, the CNE said.

During his second five-year term, Nyusi will be responsible for overseeing a gas boom led by oil giants such as Exxon Mobil Corp and Total, battling a festering Islamist insurgency and delivering on a peace deal signed two months ago.

Speaking to supporters in a suburb of the capital Maputo, where he appeared on stage to a chorus of cheers and vuvuzelas, Nyusi said he would further develop Mozambique and speed up the implementation of the deal.

"I will work so that we can have a prosperous, equitable and fair Mozambique," he told the crowd. "In these elections, the Mozambican people won."

It was hoped the Oct. 15 poll could set the seal on the fragile peace pact, designed to put a definitive end to four decades of violence between Frelimo and Renamo. The two fought a 16-year civil war that ended in a truce in 1992 but have clashed sporadically since.

Instead the deal is at risk of falling apart as opposition parties reject the results, claiming they were tarnished by fraud, violence and irregularities from the outset. Frelimo says the elections were free and fair.

Analysts say a return to all-out conflict is highly unlikely even if the deal collapses, but low-level violence, including from an armed group of breakaway former Renamo fighters, could worsen. That could suck the government's focus and resources away from the insurgency in the gas-rich north.

Eight members of the CNE voted against accepting the results earlier this week, versus nine in favour.

Fernando Mazanga, a Renamo member of the CNE, said they distanced themselves from the results because of "shameful" irregularities. REUTERS

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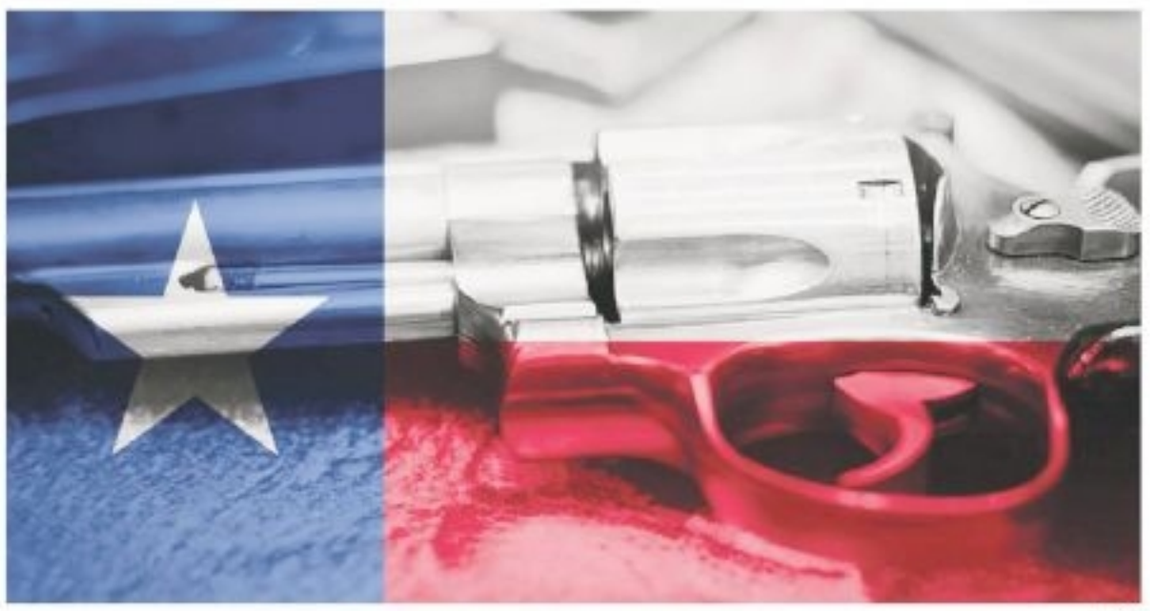
Shooting at packed Texas college party leaves at least 2 dead

The violence erupted at a Halloween homecoming.


ISTOCK

Texas police said they were seeking a gunman on Sunday who fired randomly at a Halloween homecoming party packed with hundreds of college students, leaving at least two dead and wounding about a dozen more, before fleeing amid the chaos that followed.

Authorities said they believed the unidentified male suspect may have gone to the sprawling event facility where the off-campus party was held intending to shoot a particular person, and fired his handgun into the crowd afterwards.

"We believe this is a separate incident," Hunt County Sheriff Randy Meeks told a news conference on Sunday morning. "There might have been someone there who was targeted."

The shooting happened around midnight on Saturday in Greenville, about 50 miles (80 kms) northeast of Dallas, shortly after deputies went to a hangar-like facility called The Party Venue to deal with parking violations, Meeks said.

Around 750 partygoers, many of them students at a campus of Texas A&M University in Commerce, about 15 miles (24 kms) away, were at the party when shots were fired near the back of the facility, he said.

"When the shots were fired it was complete chaos as people fled for safety and deputies attempted to locate the shooter," Meeks said, adding that some people cut themselves on broken glass as they tried to squeeze through windows.

"It appalls me that as many folks that were there have not been able to give us a better description of this shooter."

Randy Meeks

A total of 16 people, including four or five students, sought treatment for injuries, 12 of them for gunshot wounds, Meeks said, adding that their conditions were not known. The two partygoers who were killed were not identified.

The investigation, which was being aided by the Texas Rangers and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was hampered by a lack of cooperation from those in attendance, Meeks said.

"It appalls me that as many folks that were there have not been able to give us a better description of this shooter," he said, adding that investigators had interviewed 20 people.

"With this many people there, normally we would have a really good description of the shooter," he added. REUTERS

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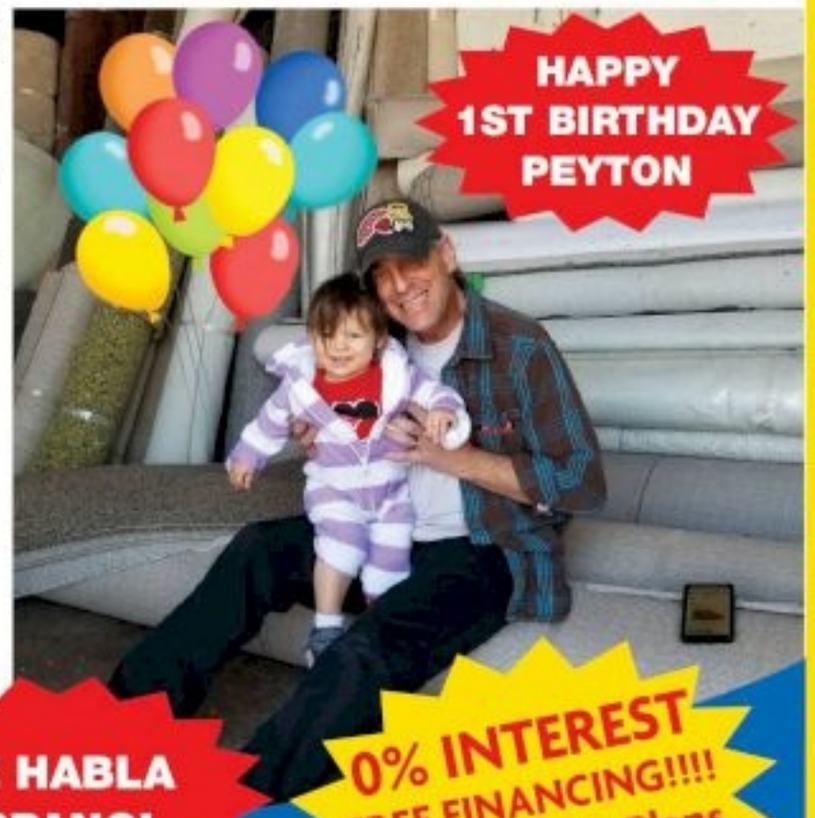

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Australian serial killer Milat dies in prison nearly 30 years after backpacker murders

Ivan Milat. GETTY IMAGES

Ivan Milat, one of Australia's worst convicted serial killers, has died in prison after spending 23 years behind bars for the murders of seven backpackers in the late 1980s and early 1990s, authorities said on Sunday.

Milat, 74, was serving seven consecutive life sentences after being convicted in 1996 of killing two Britons, three Germans and two Australians in a case that made grim headlines around the world.

A spokeswoman for Corrective Services New South Wales (NSW) said Milat died early on Sunday, without disclosing the cause of death. Australian media reported that he had been undergoing chemotherapy since a cancer diagnosis in May.

The former road worker never admitted to the murders of the young men and women, some of whom were sexually assaulted, shot or stabbed. The bodies were found in shallow graves in a New South Wales forest.

Milat was also linked to several other unsolved missing person cases, and died under suspicion of committing more crimes than those for which he was convicted.

While in prison, he remained in the news, cutting his finger off and attempting to post it to the country's top court, swallowing razor blades or swallowing parts of toilet flushing mechanisms.

"He can rot in hell," Australian media cited NSW Corrections Minister Anthony Roberts as saying. "He showed no remorse. He was sentenced to remain in jail for life, that sentence was carried out and he died in jail." REUTERS

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Microsoft beats Amazon for Pentagon's $10 billion cloud computing contract

Technological agility for Pentagon is project's focus.

REUTERS

Microsoft Corp. has won the Pentagon's $10 billion cloud computing contract, the Defense Department said on Friday, beating out favorite Amazon.com Inc.

The contracting process had long been mired in conflict of interest allegations, even drawing the attention of President Donald Trump, who has publicly taken swipes at Amazon and its founder Jeff Bezos. Trump in August said his administration was reviewing Amazon's bid after complaints from other companies.

The Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure Cloud (JEDI) contract is part of a broader digital modernization of the Pentagon meant to make it more technologically agile. Specifically, a goal of JEDI is to give the military better access to data and the cloud from battlefields and other remote locations.

Oracle Corp had expressed concerns about the award process for the contract, including the role of a former Amazon employee who worked on the project at the Defense Department but recused himself, then later left the Defense Department and returned to Amazon Web Services.

In a statement, an Amazon Web Services (AWS) spokesman said the company was "surprised about this conclusion."

The company said that a "detailed assessment purely on the comparative offerings" would "clearly lead to a different conclusion," according to the statement.

AWS is considering options for protesting the award, a person familiar with the matter told Reuters.

Although the Pentagon boasts the world's most potent fighting force, its information technology remains woefully inadequate, according to many officials.

Officials have complained of having outdated computer systems and being unable to access files or share information as quickly as they might be able to in the private sector.

"If I am a warfighter, I want as much data as you could possibly give me," Lieutenant General Jack Shanahan, the director of the Joint Artificial Intelligence Center, told reporters in August describing the importance of the contract.

Some companies were concerned that a single award would give the winner an unfair advantage in follow-on work. The Pentagon has said it planned to award future cloud deals to multiple contractors.

This week, U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper removed himself from reviewing the deal due to his adult son's employment with one of the original contract applicants, IBM Corp. IBM had previously bid for the contract but had already been eliminated from the competition.

Microsoft said it was working on a comment. IBM and Oracle did not immediately return requests for comment.

In a book slated for publication Oct. 29, retired Navy commander Guy Snodgrass, who served as a speech writer to former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, said Trump called Mattis and directed him to "screw Amazon" by preventing it from bidding on the JEDI contract, according to an excerpt of the book seen by Reuters ahead of its release.

"We're not going to do that," Mattis later told other Pentagon officials, according to the excerpt. "This will be done by the book, both legally and ethically."

Snodgrass declined to comment pending the release of his book.

In a statement announcing Microsoft as the winner, the Pentagon underscored its view that the competition was conducted fairly and legally.

"We're not going to do that. This will be done by the book, both legally and ethically."
Jim Mattis

"All (offers) were treated fairly and evaluated consistently with the solicitation's stated evaluation criteria. Prior to the award, the department conferred with the DOD Inspector General, which informed the decision to proceed," it said.

Microsoft shares were up 3% to $144.98 in after-hours trading after the news. Amazon shares were down 0.92% to $1,745.12.

The Pentagon said it had awarded more than $11 billion across 10 separate cloud contracts over the past two years.

"As we continue to execute the DOD Cloud Strategy, additional contracts are planned for both cloud services and complementary migration and integration solutions necessary to achieve effective cloud adoption," the Pentagon said. REUTERS

3%

Microsoft shares were up 3% to $144.98 in after-hours trading after the news. Amazon shares were down 0.92% to $1,745.12.

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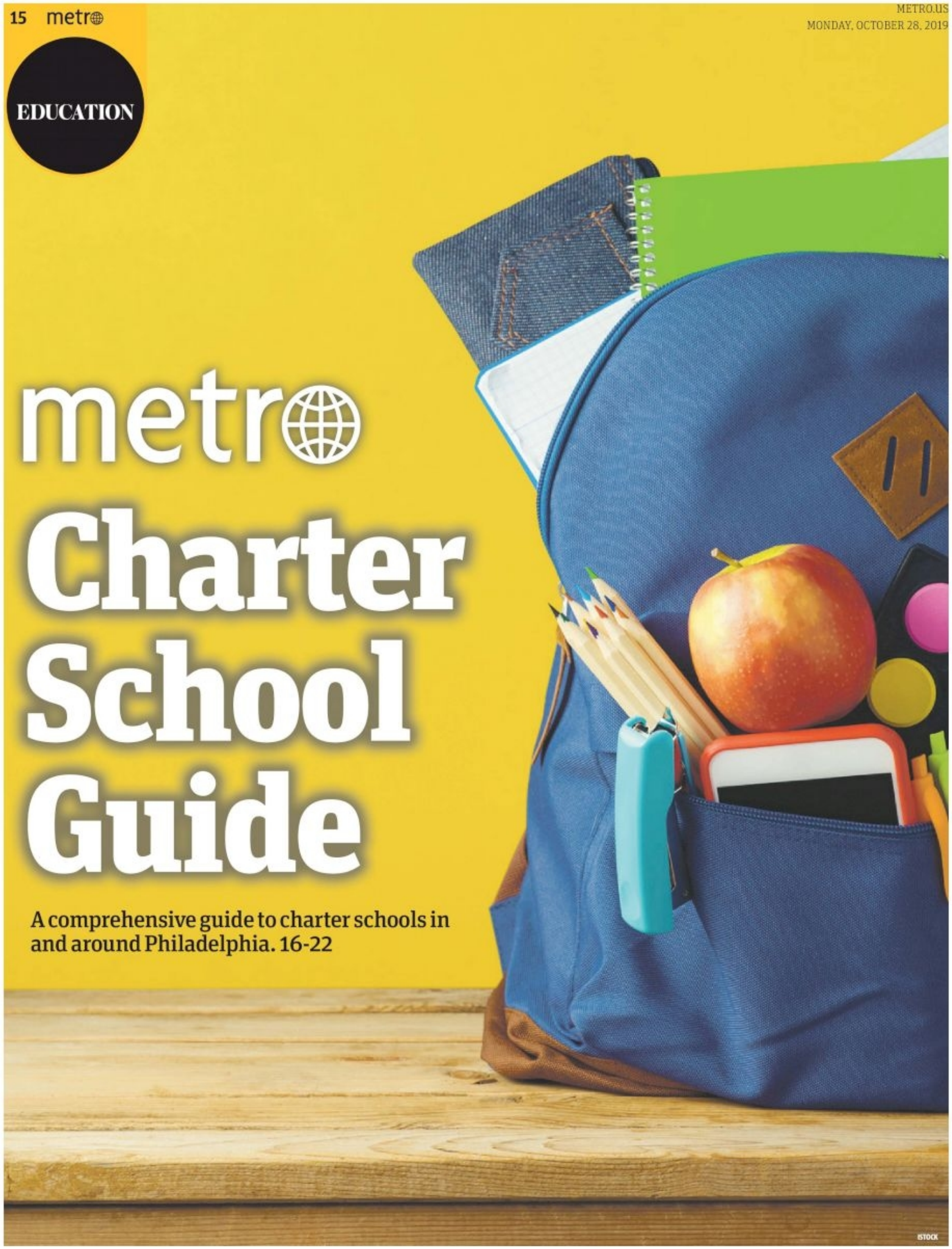
Charter School Guide

A comprehensive guide to charter schools in and around Philadelphia. 16-22



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How charter schools can take part in new farm grant program

The program is open to any school with Pre-K through fifth grade students. METRO STAFF

Gov. Tom Wolf's administration announced the launch of a new Farm to School Grant Program this week.

As part of the recent Pennsylvania Farm Bill, the new initiative is designed to "improve access to healthy, local foods and increase agriculture education opportunities for pre-kindergarten through fifth grade." The Farm to School Grant Program will make $500,000 available for elementary schools to use in order to create partnerships with local food producers as well as to enhance education practices around health food.

The program is open to any school with pre-kindergarten, kindergarten or elementary through fifth grade students, including charter schools, which can apply for grants worth up to $15,000.

In order to apply, institutions must submit a list of Pennsylvania-based farmers who have agreed to supply their school with food products from their farm. Funds must also be used to integrate nutrition and agricultural education into the classroom, as well as train teachers and staff on these subjects.

The program stipulates that parents, caregivers and community groups must be included in these educational initiatives as well. Plus, schools who are a part of the program must organize field trips to Pennsylvania farms or similar agricultural experiences in order to educate students about where their food comes from.

Projects for the program must be completed by June 30, 2020, and the grants are set to be funded as reimbursement grants, with each school receiving no more than $15,000 annually.

Interested schools can apply for the grant from Nov. 9 to Dec. 30 at agriculture.pa.gov.

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What to know about Gov. Wolf's charter school reform plans

Charter school supporters have taken issue with some of the governor's proposed plans. METRO STAFF

Things are getting a bit heated in Pennsylvania's charter school scene. In August, Gov. Tom Wolf ruffled a few feathers when he announced plans to make sweeping reforms to the Commonwealth's "flawed and outdated charter school law."

"Pennsylvania's charter school law is unfair for students, parents, school districts, and taxpayers," Gov. Wolf said in a release. "While many charter schools are succeeding, others, especially some cyber charter schools, are underperforming and we are not doing enough to hold them accountable to the taxpaying public and the children they serve."

Charter school supporters, meanwhile, have taken issue with some of the governor's proposed plans, saying that his reforms will harm families by limiting their options when it comes to school choice. Critics of Gov. Wolf also believe that his claims of calling these types of schools "private" are disingenuous, as charter schools are publicly funded.

As the battle over charter schools continues, here's what to know about Gov. Wolf's plans for reform.

Executive action and legislation:

Gov. Wolf has vowed to take executive action by working with the Department of Education to improve access to high-quality education and increase transparency around charter schools and how they are funded. The governor's August release also stated that he would look to legislation to make reforms. In particular, Gov. Wolf's plans include establishing "performance standards and creating "a charter school funding commission.

Among his proposals, Gov. Wolf wants to allow school districts to limit enrollment at under-performing charter schools as well as require these institutions to provide things like regular financial audits to state regulators and other measures to keep the accountable.

Opponents of Gov. Wolf believe that he is unfairly targeting charter schools, which only work with less than 10 percent of students in the state. Critics say that he should focus on making all schools in Pennsylvania accountable, not just charter schools, which they contend are facing an unfair amount of scrutiny compared to traditional public schools.

Gov. Wolf also recently launched a "fee-for-service model" in order to cover the costs for the Department of Education when it comes to implementing charter school law. Critics, however, say the fees put undue financial strain on charter schools.

Reforming cyber charter schools:

One area that Gov. Wolf wants to make massive changes to is cyber charter schools.

According to his plans released in August, the governor wants to propose legislation that puts a "moratorium on new cyber charter schools," caps enrollment in low-performing cyber charter schools and creates more transparency around funding for cyber charter tuition payments.

Earlier this month, Gov. Wolf announced the end of the year closing of Philadelphia's Achieving Community Transformation Academy Charter School due to poor performance. Critics say that the move will harm students and families at the school, who are now being forced to look for other options and having their choices restricted.

Additionally, beginning in the New Year, a new $86,000 fee will be imposed on new cyber charter school who want their applications reviewed by the Department of Education.

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Pennsylvania charter schools, by the numbers

Metro takes a closer look at the state of charter schools in the Commonwealth.

METRO STAFF

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Charter schools continue to be a hot topic for parents, teachers and students in Pennsylvania. On one side, supporters of these educational alternatives want to ensure that they have a choice when it comes to where they want to send their kids to school. On the other side, critics want to take a closer look at how these institutions are run, with Gov. Tom Wolf in particular seeking to make sweeping changes with his reform plans.

Since we'll no doubt be hearing more and more about this heated education issue as the months go on, we decided to take a by the numbers look at the state of charter schools in the Commonwealth.

1. 180 - According to a recent article by PennLive, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a total of 180 charter schools currently operating in the state.

2. 87 - According to numbers by the Charter Schools Office of the School District of Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love has a total of 87 "brick-and-mortar" charter schools for the 2019-2020 school year.

3. 137,000 - The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has approximately 140,000 students enrolled in charter schools throughout the state, according to a recent article by PennLive.

4. 70,000 - The number of students who attend charter schools in Philadelphia is approximately 70,000 according to statistics by the Charter Schools Office of the School District of Philadelphia for the 2019-2020 school year.

5. $1.8 billion - Hannah Barrick, assistant executive director of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials, told The Philadelphia Inquirer in August that Pennsylvania school districts paid $1.8 billion to charters last year.

6. 15 - The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania currently has 15 cyber charter schools operating in the state, according to data by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

7. $0 - Like traditional public schools, resident or nonresident students pay no tuition in order to attend a charter school.

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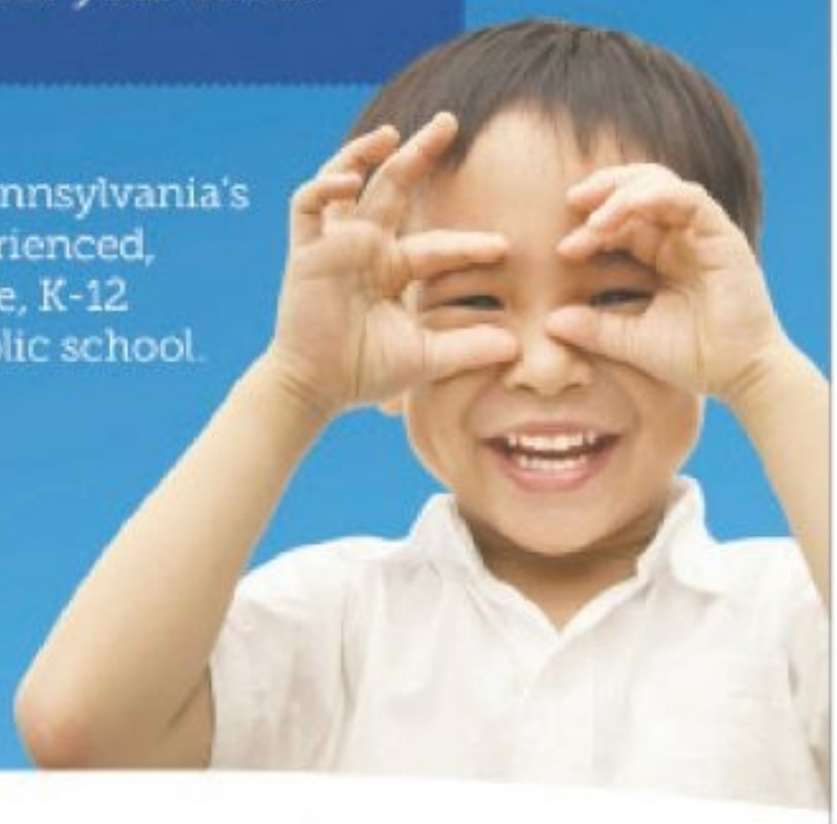

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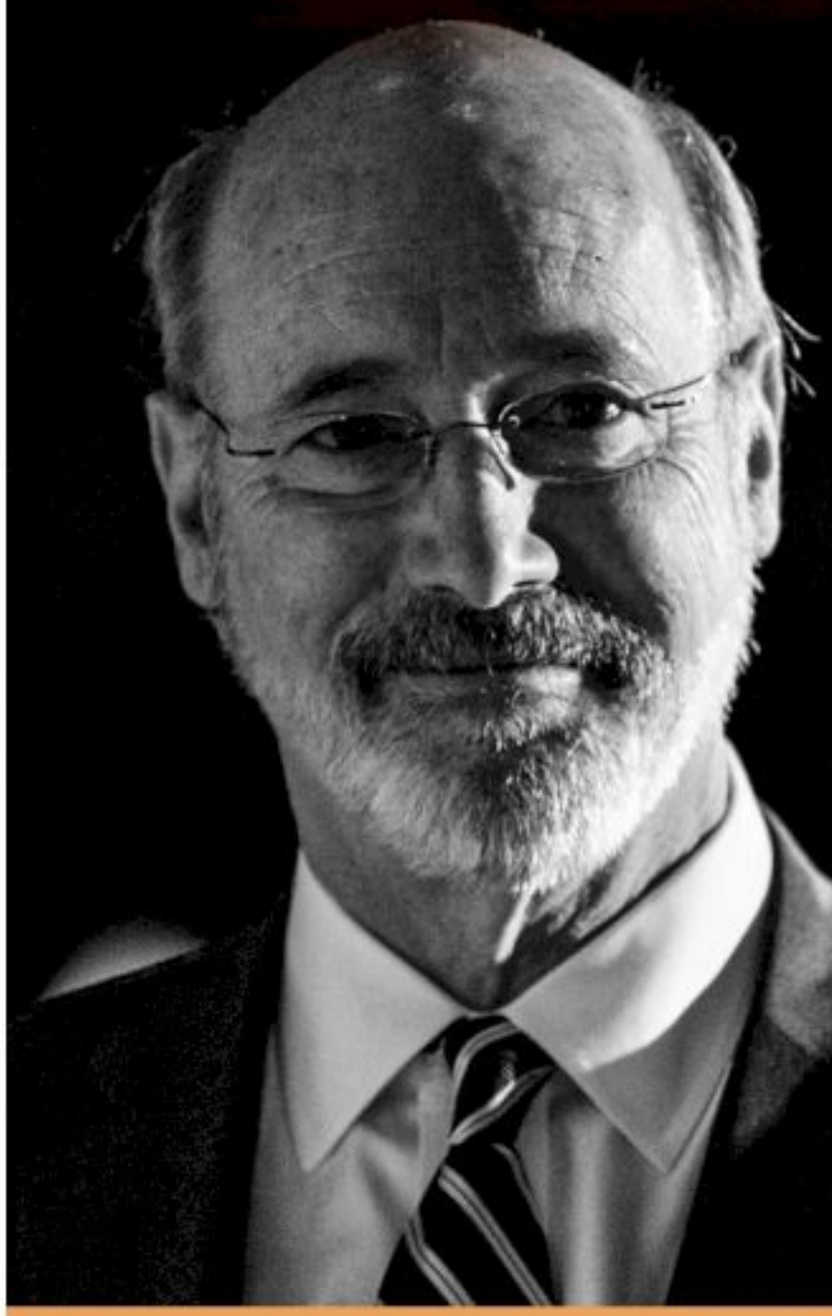

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Chelsea Wolfe dials things down

The singer-songwriter walks us through her quiet and breathtaking new album, "Birth of Violence."

PAT KING
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Chelsea Wolfe is ready to occupy a much quieter space. For years, metal's favorite not-quite-folk artist has been touring and performing on bills that have leaned towards the heavier variety, silencing rooms with her hauntingly beautiful voice. On her sixth full-length album, "Birth of Violence," the singer-songwriter needed a break from the crushing volume of her previous album, "Hiss Spun," and was looking to create an album that puts an emphasis on her voice and writing as opposed to heavy arrangements. This time around, she recorded these stripped-down folk-leaning songs at her new home in Northern California with her longtime collaborator, Ben Chisholm. As a result, "Violence" is one of Wolfe's most affecting and direct albums to date. I spoke with Wolfe over the phone about the new album and reconnecting with her voice away from the thunderous feedback from the amps on stage.

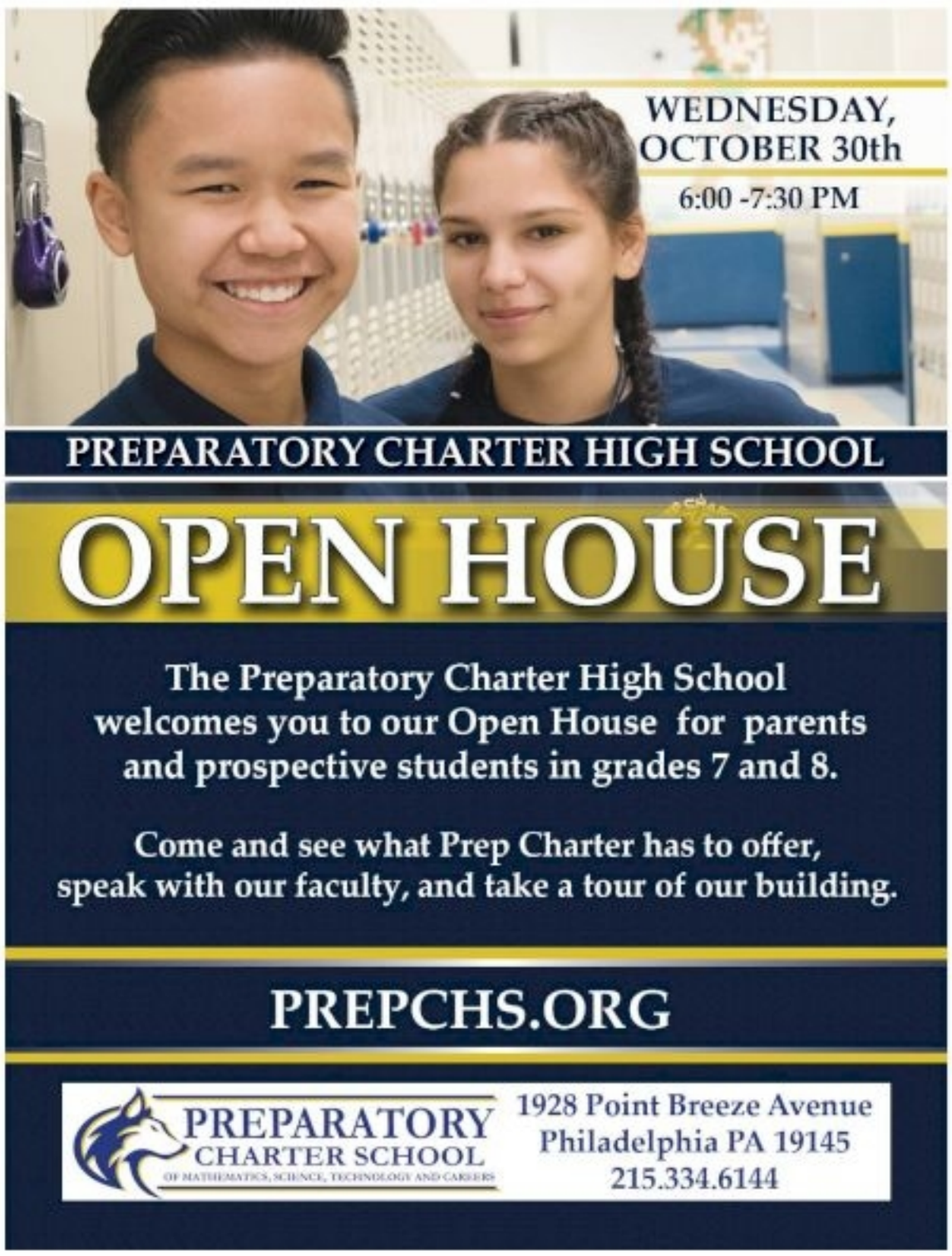
The new record is kind of a departure for you, especially from how heavy the arrangements were on your last record, "Hiss Spun." Could you tell me a little bit about the recording and writing process this time around?
Yeah, it really stems from the contrast of making this really heavy rock record, touring a lot, after about eight years of constant touring as well. So I don't know, something kind of just started to nag at me last year that I really needed to take a break and really take stock of my physical and mental health. And just daydreaming about being at home and I think the songs that became "Birth of Violence" sort of stems from that. I would just find a quiet place when I could. I started writing these songs, I felt very much a calm energy in the midst of the storm of 'tour.'

So it was almost like transitioning your home life onto the stage or onto a record in a way?
I think so. Just the experiences that I've had and a lot of it is about being on the road and being in constant motion. But yeah, I think it kind of comes back to finding a place to call home. I knew I didn't want to have to travel for this record, so it's a very DIY setup. And I did it with my bandmate in my home. And it was really special to take the time to settle into this home that I have lived in for two or three years but didn't really have the time to be there very much yet. So yeah, settling into it by making a record there was a really special experience.

With the sheer volume of "Hiss Spun," I can totally understand where you're coming from. Did you have the urge to strip everything down to reconnect with the roots of songwriting and understanding how to use your own voice with a quieter record?
Yeah, because the bridge to each song was whatever that song needed. And I think a lot of it was bringing out the joy of singing in a way. And not having ... I don't know. I wrote a lot of these [songs] in a very acoustic way. "Hiss Spun" was very much the band getting together and jamming and rock and roll and that kind of energy. Which was super fun and that record was an exorcism for me and I got a lot of personal things out that I hadn't talked about before. So it was kind of the beginning of the feelings that I really needed to hone in on during "Birth of Violence." So it is very healing to play acoustic guitar and sing in a quiet room and experiment with your voice.

You've been working with your bandmate and musical collaborator Ben Chisholm for so long now. How has that relationship strengthened over time?
I feel like we're just lucky to find a collaborator that we can really just feel comfortable writing with and writing in front of. And from day one when we tried playing music together ten or so years ago, we just instantly connected that way. I basically brought him in to co-produce it because I know that he takes the scale to the end of the song and really gives it this place to live.

Make sure to catch Chelsea Wolfe for a special Halloween show at Union Transfer this Thursday, Oct. 31.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www.independencecharter.org

the Grumble

sudoku

EASY

		7		1		6	2	
5			8		2	7	3	
	2		7		6			9
				7			6	2
			3		5			
4	5			6				
2			4		7		1	
	9	4	2		1			3
	1	8		9		2		

MEDIUM

	7				3			4
	6	3	9		8	1		
				1			9	2
	3	6	7					
	9						8	
					9	4	2	
9	2			7				
		4	5		2	7	1	
6			3				4	

HARD

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		4		9	6			
	7			3			1	2
9					3			
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			6					7
8	4			7			6	
			3	2		4		
1			8					

READER WRITE-INS:

TRAVELING FOR THANKSGIVING

I love my family. But sometimes travel prices are just not worth it to go see them on a holiday like Thanksgiving. Between travel time — 5 hours for me — and the price tag, it adds up to seeing them for basically one day, one big meal and an empty bank account. Can't I just see them when the prices go down? I'll even cook turkey.

Jasmine, *Metro US reader*

ISTOCK

metro & evvnt

INVITE THE WORLD TO YOUR EVENTS

List your event on metro.us/events

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Look at the big picture and take things down a notch. Know your capabilities and reserve something substantial to use as a wild card.

Taurus A change is encouraged. Consider what you want, and make a proposal that's hard to refuse. Your wit, candor and charm will help you get what you want.

Gemini Physical activity should be a priority. Listen to what others have to say, but don't believe everything you hear. Choose to do your own thing.

Cancer Concentrate on what you want to accomplish. Don't be afraid to do things differently. Your unique approach will draw interest and secure approval and support. Romance is on the rise.

Leo Keep busy. Work toward something that will broaden your awareness and encourage you to look ahead. Refuse to let someone rain on your parade.

Virgo What you do to help others will end up being to your advantage. Someone you encounter will offer valuable information that will bring about positive lifestyle changes.

Libra Don't get angry when you can get moving. Think about what's happening and broaden your options. It's up to you to make things happen. Don't wait for someone to make a decision for you.

Scorpio Embrace what life has to offer. Don't get sidetracked by the actions of others. Do things your way and make adjustments that ease your stress. Romance is encouraged.

Sagittarius Helping others is a nice gesture, but before you commit to doing something, find out exactly what's expected of you. Someone's motives appear to be shady or impractical.

Capricorn Discuss your intentions with someone who could be instrumental in helping you reach your goal. A positive change is heading your way, and preparation will be essential.

Aquarius Stay focused on what you must achieve. Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. A sensitive issue should be handled delicately. Mull over your options before you respond.

Pisces If you are direct and you keep things simple, you will make headway. Negotiations and contracts are favored, and promises can be made. Romance is in the stars. EUGENIA LAST

5 fun things to do this week Oct. 28-Nov. 1

Enter your dog in a Halloween costume contest, attend a spooky dinner and more

MADELINE PRESLAND
letters@metro.us

Looking for fun and unique things to do in Philly this week? We've got you covered.

Howl-O-Ween

Celebrate Halloween with your best fido friend at Seger Dog Park. This party will feature a dog costume contest with a competitive twist. Both dogs and humans must be dressed up in order to enter the contest. Compete to win prizes from Doggie Style Pets as well as get all the compliments for your matching outfits. Categories include best overall costume, best homemade costume and funniest costume. Gather a group of your dog and human friends to enter the group. Enjoy mingling with fellow dog lovers while celebrating Halloween with apple cider and a spooky soundtrack. *Oct. 29, 5 p.m.-7 p.m., Seger Dog Park, 1001 Rodman St., Free, segerdogpark.org*

Black & Blue Benefit at ITV

On Tuesday, proceeds from select drinks at Nicholas Elmi's In the Valley (ITV) will be donated to an important cause. Project Black and Blue provides financial assistance to service industry workers experiencing physical, mental and financial distress. The organization's name reflects an aspect of service industry culture, in which bruises are are worn with pride as a sign of toughness and hard work. Starting at 8 p.m., ITV will donate $1 for each Miller Lite sold and $2 from each Konrad No. 4 cocktail made with Maker's Mark and St. Germain elderflower liqueur.

ISTOCK

Oct. 29, 8 p.m., ITV, 1615 E Passyunk Ave., Pay as you go, itvphilly.com

History After Hours - All the Gory Details

The Museum of the American Revolution teams up with the Mütter Museum for an extra spooky edition of their History After Hours event series. Get access to the museum after hours, hear a talk on 18th century surgery techniques on the battlefield and see a theatrical performance to learn about the experience of an Irish soldier in the Revolutionary War. In addition to some gory history, enjoy some special seasonal drinks. Art in the Age will be in attendance to give guests a taste of Graverobber, an unholy rye whiskey infused with maple syrup. Don't miss the cider cocktail competition in honor of Philly Cider Week in the Museum's Cross Keys Cafe. *Oct. 29, 5 p.m.-8 p.m., Museum of the American Revolution, 101 S 3rd St., $10, amrevmuseum.org*

Pumpkins on the Patio

It's a pumpkin decorating party for adults only. Get in the Halloween spirit while making decorations for your stoop and enjoying featured seasonal brews at Royal Boucherie in Old City. Step into their hidden garden on Wednesday evening to decorate your own pumpkin and try beers and ciders from Brewery Ommegang. The ticket price includes your first Ommegang beverage and taking your pumpkin home at the end of the evening. *Oct. 30, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Royal Boucherie, 52 S 2nd St., $10, royalboucherie.com*

Barra Rossa Mischief Night Dinner

This spooky dinner is perfect for true crime enthusiasts. Join Barra Rossa for their special Halloween themed dinner featuring twists on the last meals eaten by notorious serial killers. The $66 six course dinner includes pizza skulls paired with Apothic Brew Red Blend Coffee Wine and a special twist on fried chicken served with strawberry aioli, truffle fries and garlic shrimp. The main course will be served with a Lethal Injection cocktail made with peach vodka and melon liqueur served in a large plastic syringe. *Oct. 30, 8 p.m., Barra Rossa, 929 Walnut St., $66, barrarossa.com*

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Pet care like you've never seen before

Heart + Paw offers one-of-a-kind services for pets and pet parents.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

They say that pets are like children to most people, and at the recently opened integrated pet care center in Glen Mills, Heart + Paw, they are certainly treated that way.

Heart + Paw started as a vision and a blank piece of paper, and now has amassed to various state-of-the-art locations in numerous states, and yet they seem to just be getting started.

"I've loved pets my whole life," says Co-Founder and CEO of Heart + Paw, Vincent Bradley. "We were looking for something that just wasn't for sick pets, but really about a lifestyle and bringing together an integrated approach to services. We really think of pets as being a part of our family. So what we've tried to create is a destination experience. We ask ourselves three questions: What does the consumer want, what does the pet need and how can we provide that?"

Bradley and the other co-founders answered those questions by providing all of the services your pet could ever need in one facility, but also by elevating the experience for pet owners. Instead of just dropping off your pet, Heart + Paw allows pet parents to stay, hang out, watch their pet get groomed or even play and truly enjoy an experience.

"There is a level of transparency that we find incredibly important. When you come into a Heart + Paw center for example, in King of Prussia, as soon as you come in the door there are tons of windows to watch your dog be groomed or be bathed, and also comfortable

Bring your pets to Heart + Paw for a unique experience. PROVIDED

seats," says Bradley. "We welcome you to hang out, we want you to stay, enjoy a cup of coffee, get on our wifi and watch your dogs play. Even on the veterinary side, we wanted to create an environment where pet parents can see everything that's going on in the process. Things like having care coordinators and technicians invite you back to pet your dog while in recovery."

All Heart + Paw centers offer a general practice with veterinary components, highly curated retail availability and grooming in a spa-like atmosphere. There are also extra services offered depending on the location including doggie daycare and overnight dog boarding.

But there is so much more to the centers than just being incredibly convenient facilities.

According to the release, Heart + Paw creates unique service touchpoints for its clients, for example, the ability to text with their vet, as well as tailoring the low-stress experience to the unique needs of cats and dogs. Cats have a feline-only waiting room and in the exam room, there are custom-built cat shelves designed by the Chief Veterinary Officer so that cats can get examined where they feel most comfortable. For dogs, there are custom floor mats so that dogs can be examined side-by-side with the vet and avoid the stress of lifting them onto the table.

Another strong component with Heart + Paw is utilizing the local community in their facilities. They implemented their want for local artists and organizations into their sleek and chic designs that you've most likely never seen before in a pet-care facility.

Heart + Paw is now open in Glen Mills (479 Route 202) and King of Prussia (201 Main St.), but soon there will be more facilities in the region and even right in the city. In November, look for a new facility in Cherry Hill and then in 2020 look for three new locations in Philadelphia, including in the East Market in Northern Liberties.

"We bring a high degree of expertise and experience in all of the areas that we provide. We designed everything, not just the look and feel, but our systems and processes are really designed for pets and curated for parents," says Bradley. "There is a level of intentionality that allowed us to bring our expertise and experience to life in a very intentional way that is quite unique. Having that attentive care for our pets, pet parents and team members really sets us apart."

For more information on Heart + Paw visit heartandpaw.com

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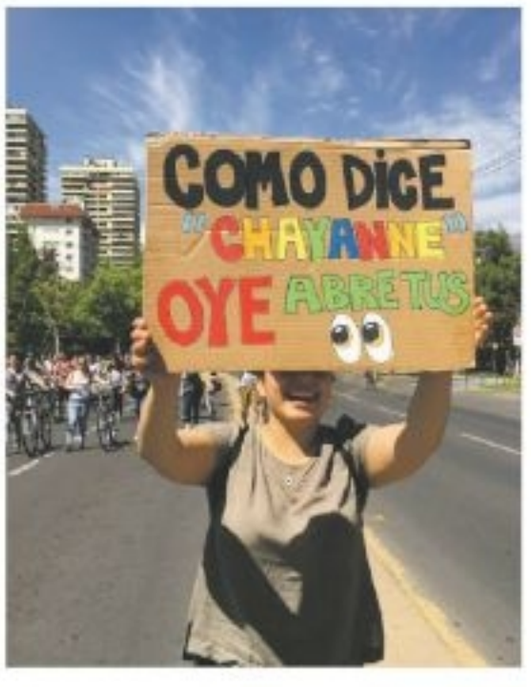
Images of the posters from the last week of protests in Santiago, Chile. | PHOTOS: JORGE CORTÉS, DIEGO BASTARRICA, MWN

A week of protests and messages to the government

Friday, October 25 marked the end of the first week of mass protests in Chile. Triggered by the metro fare hike announcement, the unrest – thanks to banners and slogans – has raised awareness for a large number of issues left behind by local governments and politicians for years. On Thursday, Publimetro in Santiago converted its cover into a poster for the readers to be able to continue writing the history. MWN



JOBS

ISTOCK

These are the careers of the future (or, at least, those that will survive)

The ways of educating have changed because of the needs of the rapidly changing market.

LUZ LANCHEROS
MWN
letters@metro.us

Although some countries stand out for their educational offers, the truth is that professionals from millennials onwards have faced much faster changes than any other generation: how they communicate through technology, how they are changing goods and services through it, and how they generate content during the so-called Fourth Industrial Revolution. And although robotics is already a reality and affects some professions that previously required human labor, for many people it is a distant or even dark reality. However, there are already courses and careers that have been created to meet new market needs.

In fact, Saadia Zahidi, head of education, gender and labor at the World Economic Forum, predicted during an event the organization held a year ago that 47 percent of world jobs would be automated by 2025. And that is why technology-related careers will be the most demanded. According to the Career Addict portal, the career with more vacancies (high demand in 24 countries) and better payment is application software developer (followed by mechanical engineers, doctors and nurses), with an average salary of more than $69k per year. This coincides with the list presented with this year's study by Career Cast, which showed that in the United States the average salary for those professionals could surpass $101k annually.

Educating yourself is like watching Netflix

While there is still a lot of face-to-face access in educational centers, a great boom can already be seen in free and online courses on any subject that are provided by renowned universities worldwide. And there are even special platforms that offer this service. For example, Coursera features more than 100k online courses, ranging from basic ones to masters that cost an average of $15k. Udemy also offers the same number of courses on different subjects starting from $15. There are even free platforms and courses offered by some universities and technology platforms (such as Google) depending on the needs of each particular profession. All of these courses seek to improve skills increasingly required during the "revolution."

But how do you know if robots will replace your work? There are pages like "Willrobotstakemyjob" that show percentages and predictions. But, in any case, if you are very worried about your future, there are options to help you stay up-to-date and give you more ideas to take action.

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

Before we get to the Monday Night Football betting preview, I should remind you about the top offer in PA and NJ sports betting – a limited-time offer to obtain a free $50 VISA gift card and up to $250 in risk-free bonus money at **MetroBet.us/Sugar.**

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The Steelers probably shouldn't be favored by 14 points against Malvern Prep, let alone something that sort of resembles an NFL team. But then again the Dolphins are re-writing the book on pro football ineptitude this season.

Quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick is back in the saddle for the Dolphins, and he actually looked respectable last week in a 31-21 road loss to the Bills. Still, Fitzpatrick has never beaten the Steelers in his 15-year career.

Adding to the likelihood that the Steelers will cover this thing is that they are 4-2 against the spread this year, they have a full week of rest coming off the bye, and they have been very good at home this season.

ALL GETTY IMAGES

Here are the results of the Steelers three games at Heinz Field this season: 28-26 loss vs. Seahawks, 27-3 win vs. Bengals, and 26-23 overtime loss to the Ravens.

Spread: Steelers -14 (-110)
Over Under: 43 points (-110)
Moneyline: Dolphins +525, Steelers -770

New Dolphins head coach Brian Flores has done a decent job not letting the Miami franchise go totally off the rails as they were at least competitive against the Bills last week in Buffalo. But with the worst roster in the league right now, this is still a team that lost 30-10 at home to a so-so Chargers team less than a month ago. They also lost to the Redskins (17-16) in the Toilet Bowl two weeks ago.

Coming off of last week's strong showing against the Bills, it's hard to imagine the Dolphins stringing together two good games in a row.

Bottom line is that you can't put any faith in a team that could very well wind up 0-16.

The play: Steelers -14

TWEET OF THE DAY

David Payne
@DavidPurdum

William Hill took a $5,040 moneyline bet on Oklahoma (-2400) to beat Kansas State. It would have won a net $210.
Kansas State won 48-41.

Best bets

College FB betting: Florida vs. Georgia

The Gators are the de-facto home team at TIAA Bank Field in Jacksonville, FL for this matchup with Georgia on Saturday afternoon, but the latter team should take care of business in this spot.

The Bulldogs are led on offense by running back D'Andre Swift, who has rushed for 6.8 yards per carry on 110 attempts with seven TDs this season. He has guided Georgia to an 11th-place ranking in the country in yards per play along with quarterback Jake Fromm (70.7 percent completion rate, 8.1 yards per attempt, 9-3 TD-INT ratio).

By contrast, Florida's defense is 38th in yards allowed per play in 2019 and has just allowed 34.5 points per game over its last two contests.

Meanwhile, the Bulldogs' stoppers, seventh in total defense, are fresh off their second shutout victory of the season (21-0 over Kentucky).

Florida's offense, led by backup quarterback Kyle Trask (67.5 percent completion rate, 8.2 yards per attempt, 14-4 TD-INT ratio) and running back Lamical Perine (4.6 yards per carry, 100 attempts, four TDs), is a modest 52nd in yards per game this season.

Georgia is 7-1 against the spread in their last eight neutral-site games, so roll with the Bulldogs here.

The play: Bulldogs spread

ROBERT CRISCOLA

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A New Sex Pill Takes the Spotlight as the Viagra Patent is About to Expire

A patented pill costing less than $1 a dose stands to help millions of men with failing sex lives; no prescription will be required

By Ray Wilson
Associated Health Press

AHP – A new sex pill is set to take the spotlight with the Viagra patent about to expire. But unlike the former, it won't require a prescription and is priced just under a $1 a dose.

The new pill called *Vesele* is part of a new class of performance enhancers for men, which work instantaneously on the body and mind triggering arousal and firmer, harder erections.

Formulated with a special compound known as an "accelerator", *Vesele* can transport its active ingredients faster and more efficiently into the blood stream, where it begins to work its magic.

The patented ingredient blend initiates a process known as vasodilation, which causes arteries and vessels throughout the body to expand. This allows blood to flow directly to penis and genitals, resulting in harder erections which last longer. Cialis and Viagra are based around a simlilar concept.

But what makes *Vesele* so remarkable, and what these other sex pills can't do, is that also directs a small portion of this blood flow to the brain, which creates feelings of intense arousal. In laymen's terms, users become incredibly excited and turned on.

This is why the makers of *Vesele* say their pill has worked so effectively in clinical trials. It stimulates the two most important organs for great sex, the penis and the brain.

The Brain Erection Connection

Until now, medical researchers did not fully understand the brain-erection connection. It has now been made clear with *Vesele*. When both are supplied with a constant blood flow, men are harder and firmer for longer...and have unbelievable sex drives.

"Most of the research and treatment methods for men's sexual failures have focused on physiological factors and have neglected the emotional ones. For the leading sex drugs to work, like Cialis and Viagra, you need visual stimulation" explains Dr. Henry Esber, the creator of *Vesele*.

"And although they work for some men, the majority experience absolutely no fulfillment during sex.

According to research published by the National Institute of Health, 50% of men taking these drugs stop responding or can't tolerate their side effects...and on top of that they spend $50 per pill and it doesn't even work half the time.

This is what makes *Vesele* so different and effective. It floods the blood stream with key ingredients which cause arteries all over the body to expand. The patented accelerator speeds up this process even more.

The result is a rush of blood flow to the penis and brain, helping to create an impressive erection and a surging desire for sex. Often, this is all men need to get going. And when taken regularly, many men say they are energized and aroused all day."

Great Sex At Any Age

With the conclusion of their latest human clinical use survey trial, Dr. Esber and his team are now offering *Vesele* in the US. And regardless of the market, its sales are exploding.

Men across the country are eager to get their hands on the new pill and according to the research, they should be.

In the trial above, as compared to baseline, men taking *Vesele* saw a staggering 85% improvement in erection hardness over a four-month period. Their erections also lasted twice as long.

These same men also experienced an astounding 82% increase in the desire for sex (libido/sex drive) and an even greater improvement in overall satisfaction and ability to satisfy their partners.

Many men taking *Vesele* described feeling horny and aroused through the day. The anticipation before sex was amazing. They were also easily turned on. Their moods were more upbeat and positive, too.

Faster Absorption into the Blood Stream

Vesele is made up of three specialized ingredients: two clinical strength vasodilators and a patented absorption enhancer often called an accelerator. According to an enormous amount of clinical data, each is very safe.

Research shows that with age, many men lose their desire and interest in sex. They also struggle to produce an erection firm enough for penetration.

And although there are many theories as to why this happens (including a loss in testosterone) one thing is certain, inadequate blood flow is virtually always to blame. That's why sex drug manufacturers focus on blood flow, it makes your erection hard.

But what's more surprising, and what these manufacturers have failed to consider, is that lack of blood flow can also kill your sex drive. That's because blood supplies energy for the brain. This energy is required for creating brainwaves that cause excitability and arousal.

Studies show the *Vesele* stimulates the entire cardiovascular system, including the arteries that lead to both the brain and penis. The extreme concentration of the ingredients combined with the accelerator ensures that this process starts quickly.

Expiring Patent Opens the Door to a New Sex Pill: *Vesele* is a new pill that cost just $1 a dose does not require a prescription. It works on both body and mind to increase arousal and erection hardness.

The sexual benefits of *Vesele* are also multiplied as its ingredients build up in the system over time. This is why many men take it every single day.

Recent Studies Show Positive Effects on Women

In the same study referenced throughout, *Vesele* was also shown to have an amazing (and somewhat surprising) effect on women too. That's because the same arteries and vessels that carry blood and oxygen to the brain and genitals are the same in men and women.

"In our most recent study, women taking *Vesele* saw a stunning 52% improvement in arousal and sex drive. Perhaps more impressive, they also experienced a 57% improvement in lubrication.

You can imagine why some couples are taking *Vesele* together. Everything feels better. Everything works better. Everyone performs better. It's truly amazing."

A New Frontier of Non-Prescription Sex Pills

With daily use, *Vesele* is helping men (and women) restore failing sex lives and overcome sexual lets downs without side effect or expense.

Through a patented absorption enhancer, the *Vesele* formula hits the bloodstream quickly, resulting in phenomenal improvements in erection firmness and hardness. By boosting blood flow to the brain, users also experience sexual urges and arousal they often haven't felt in years.

Where to Find Vesele

This is the official release of *Vesele* in Pennsylvania. As such, the company is offering a special discounted supply to any reader who calls within the next 48 hours.

A special hotline number and discounted pricing has been created for all Pennsylvania residents. Discounts will be available starting today at 6:00AM and will automatically be applied to all callers.

Your Toll-Free Hotline number is 1-800-604-7981 and will only be open for the next 48 hours. Only a limited discounted supply of *Vesele* is currently available in your region.

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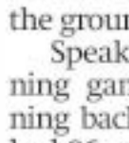

JOVAN ALFORD
sports@metro.us

The Eagles took down the Bills in Buffalo on Sunday afternoon. GETTY IMAGES

After getting humiliating in their last two games against the Minnesota Vikings and Dallas Cowboys, the Philadelphia Eagles ended their three-game road trip with a 31-13 victory over the upstart Buffalo Bills.

With the win, the Eagles snapped their two-game losing streak and head coach Doug Pederson improved his record against AFC teams to an impressive 10-1.

It was not a pretty game at New Era Field as both teams were trying to battle the elements. That being said, Philadelphia leaned on in their defense, running game, and starting quarterback Carson Wentz's playmaking abilities.

In regards to Wentz, the fourth-year signal-caller completed 71-percent of his passes for 172 yards and a touchdown. He also added 35 yards on the ground.

Speaking of the running game, veteran running back Jordan Howard had 96 yards on 23 carries and a touchdown. Rookie back Miles Sanders had 74 rushing yards, including an electrifying 65-yard touchdown run.

The Penn State alum also made an impact in the receiving game with three receptions for 44 yards.

When it came to Buffalo, second-year quarterback Josh Allen had to do it all on offense. He completed 48.5-percent of his passes for 169 yards and both of his team's touchdowns.

He also led the Bills in rushing yards with 45 on eight carries. However, the former University of Wyoming standout did have a critical turnover towards the end of the first half, created by the highly-scrutinized Eagles' defense.

Speaking of Philadelphia's defense, they started off the game on the right foot. They quickly forced Buffalo's offense into a three-and-out, which was capped off by a Fletcher Cox strip-sack.

Later in the first quarter, Philadelphia put together a nine-play, 54-yard scoring drive, which featured a 16-yard run from Nelson Agholor on first down, and a 25-yard catch on a halfback screen from Sanders.

Kicker Jake Elliott converted a 37-yard field goal to give the Eagles an early 3-0 lead.

After Philadelphia scored the first points of the game, the Bills' offense came back and put together a scoring drive, which was aided by inexcusable penalties by the Eagles' defense.

At the 1:47 mark of the opening quarter, Allen hit wide receiver John Brown for a nine-yard reception on 3rd-&-8, ut Buffalo picked up more yards thanks to an unnecessary roughness penalty on safety Malcolm Jenkins.

A couple of plays later, Jenkins was tagged with another unnecessary roughness penalty, this time on a 13-yard run by Allen.

Those penalties helped get the Bills into the red zone as Allen ended their 10-play, 75-yard drive with a 14-yard passing touchdown to former Dallas Cowboys slot wideout Cole Beasley. On that drive alone, Allen completed 5-of-7 passes for 36 yards.

After both teams traded punts throughout the second quarter, the Eagles' defense finally got a turnover on Buffalo's second-year quarterback with less than two minutes left in the first half.

Coming into Sunday's game, Allen was sacked 15 times and blitzed an incredible 78 times. On 3rd-&-2, Philadelphia defensive end Brandon Graham forced Allen to fumble and recovered it to put the Eagles' offense inside the red zone.

Once inside the red zone, Philadelphia made it a point of emphasis to run the ball with Howard, Sanders, and Wentz. A couple of plays later, Wentz hit Goedert on a slant route for a five-yard touchdown catch, giving the Eagles a two-point lead at 9-7.

It was the second-straight week that the second-year tight end scored Philadelphia's first touchdown. After the touchdown pass from Wentz, the Eagles tacked on a two-point conversation to go into the half up 11-7.

Philadelphia's offense did not take long to score their second touchdown of the game as Sanders ripped off a 65-yard touchdown run to open up the third quarter. It was the rookie's first rushing touchdown of his career and gave the Eagles a 17-7 lead.

After Buffalo's stout defense gave up a big play, their offense came down the field and put together their second 10-play, 75-yard scoring drive. However, unlike the first scoring drive, Allen found rookie running back Devin Singletary for a 28-yard touchdown, cutting Philly's lead to 17-13.

With 9:15 left in the third quarter, the Eagles' passing game finally got vertical as Wentz hit Jeffery for a 38-yard reception down the left sideline.

Philadelphia continued to pass the ball with Wentz, finding Howard for a 15-yard reception and Jeffery for a three-yard reception. A few plays later around the 5:38 mark, Boston Scott scored a four-yard rushing touchdown, increasing the Eagles lead to 24-13.

Finally, in the fourth quarter, Eagles' offense put together an immaculate eight-minute, 14-play scoring, which Howard finished off with a three-yard touchdown run.

In addition to Howard, Wentz made plays with his legs, rushing for 24 yards and picking up critical first downs.

Notable free-agent arms Phillies should consider

The Phillies could have a busy winter ahead of them.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

There's no denying that one of the Phillies' largest weaknesses in 2019 was their pitching.

The organization lacked a clear No. 2 starter behind ace Aaron Nola as Zach Eflin, Nick Pivetta, Vince Velasquez and the injured Jake Arrieta left plenty to be desired.

While the Phillies made an enormous acquisition in the form of manager Joe Girardi last week, general manager Matt Klentak has a chance to redeem himself this winter by getting another legitimate arm.

Here are a few options he could look at this winter:

GERRIT COLE

2019 STATS: 20-5, 2.50 ERA, 326 K's

MADISON BUMGARNER

2019 STATS: 9-9, 3.90 ERA, 203 K's

HYUN-JIN RYU

2019 STATS: 14-5, 2.32 ERA, 163 K's

ZACK WHEELER

2019 STATS: 11-8, 3.96 ERA, 195 K's

JAKE ODORIZZI

2019 STATS: 15-7, 3.51 ERA, 178 K's

JOSE QUINTANA

2019 STATS: 13-9, 4.68 ERA, 152 K's

ALL GETTY IMAGES

MONDAY SPORTS SCHEDULE

NBA

76ERS AT HAWKS
7:30 P.M. ET, NBC SPORTS PHILADELPHIA

PACERS AT PISTONS: 7 P.M.
BULLS AT KNICKS: 7 P.M.
MAGIC AT RAPTORS: 7:30 P.M.
WARRIORS AT PELICANS: 8 P.M.
CAVALIERS AT BUCKS: 8 P.M.
THUNDER AT ROCKETS: 8 P.M.
TRAIL BLAZERS AT SPURS: 8:30 P.M.
JAZZ AT SUNS: 10 P.M.
NUGGETS AT KINGS: 10 P.M.
HORNETS AT CLIPPERS: 10:30 P.M.

NFL

DOLPHINS AT STEELERS: 8:15 P.M., ESPN

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Please take notice US Storage Centers - Philadelphia 1910 S. Christopher Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia PA 19148 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.usstoragecenters.com/auctions on **11/12/2019** at **10:00am**.

Jared Crawford unit #1004;
Donato Larotonda unit #1011;
James Crossley unit #1055;
Steven Mork unit #1071;
Laura Jimenez unit #1100;
Kristen Kilpatrick unit #1134;
Kristen Wood unit #1246;
Anita Ruiz unit #1274;
Andy Song unit #2147;
Samantha Seltzer unit #2175;
Kevin Provost unit #2459;
Chenel Wilson unit #2609;
Alan Gorman unit #2798.

This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.

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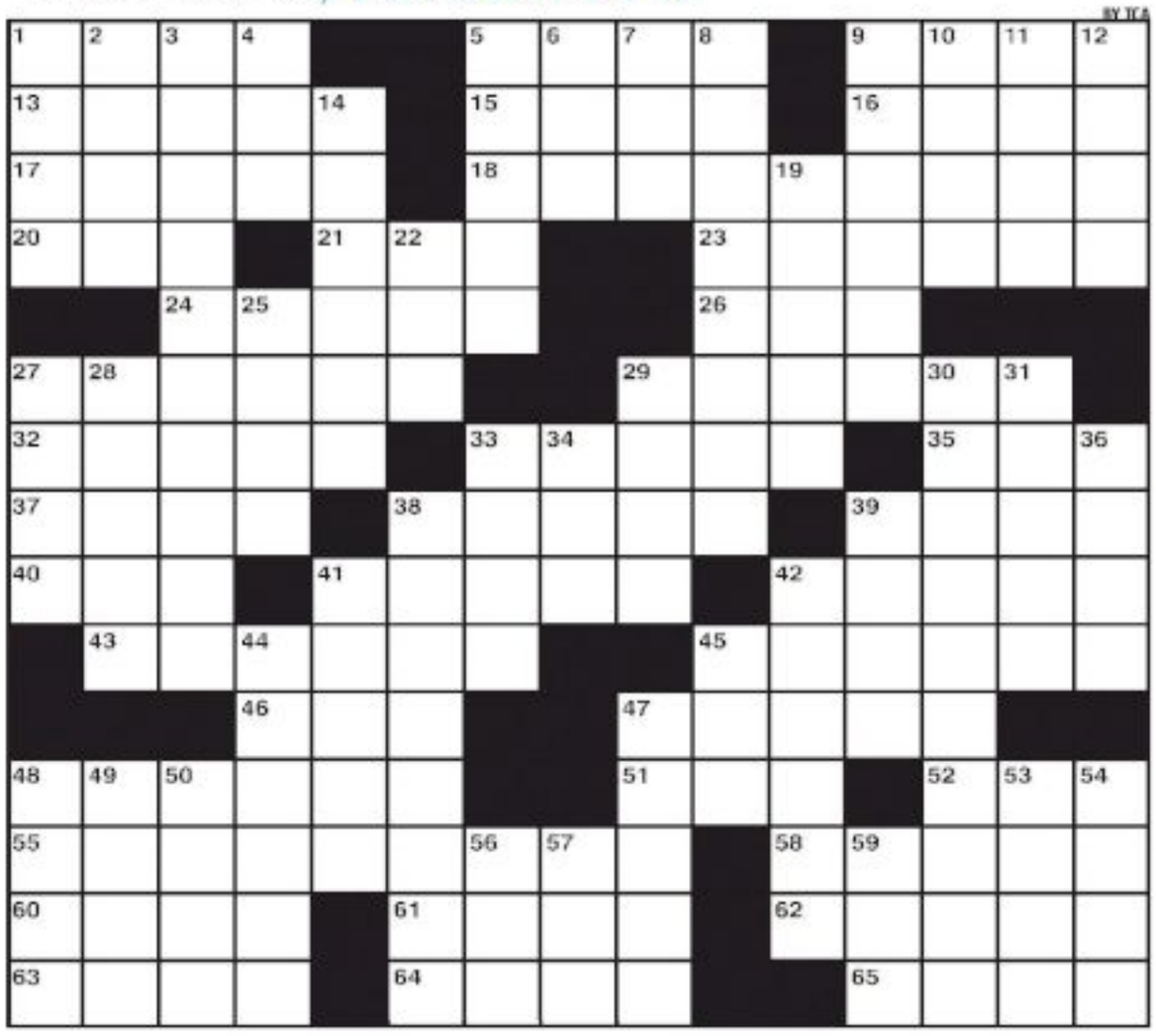
To place an ad call 866-900-9473

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:
All classified advertising is subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable Metro Classified rate card and to approval and acceptance at Metro U.S. option. Metro US reserves the right to edit, reject, cancel or reclassify an ad, and reserves the right to convert any classified advertising to alternative formats for use and publication in other Metro U.S. publications. It is the advertiser's sole responsibility to check each ad the first day it is published. Metro U.S. assumes no responsibility for any reason, for any error or omission in any ad.

GAMES

metro.us/crossword

BY TCA



Check your answers at metro.us/games

ACROSS

1 Unwanted e-mail
5 Burn
9 Actor George
13 "It's Only a __ Moon"
15 Subdue
16 Get taller
17 Red Delicious or Granny Smith
18 Plato's famous student
20 Coal __; thick black liquid
21 Vehicle
23 Self-confident
24 Standing straight
26 Sullivan & O'Neill
27 Blame
29 Rascals
32 Arthritis symptoms
33 Devoutness
35 Fraternity letter
37 As limp as __
38 Farm buildings
39 Actor Bridges
40 Go bad
41 Silenced
42 Dial & Ivory
43 Next to
45 Upper room
46 Two __ two is four
47 Smarter
48 Refuse to sit up straight
51 Elvis Presley's "__ Now or Never"
52 Everybody
55 Stuck-up
58 Els with a club
60 As busy as __
61 Kill flies
62 Religious tenet
63 Disarray
64 Flying insect
65 Necklace piece

DOWN

1 Run-in
2 Family member
3 Be grateful for
4 Boss on TV's "Alice"
5 Begin
6 In one __ and out the other
7 "__ my brother's keeper?"
8 Thinks highly of
9 Self-centeredness
10 Carney & Garfunkel
11 __ out; distribute
12 Eur. nation
14 Alcove
19 10/28/19
22 Biggest diamond
25 Ladder piece
27 On __ with; equivalent to
28 Tree with tasty pods
29 __ away; dismiss
30 Set up beforehand
31 Form; mold
33 Cracker spread
34 Wrath
36 Remove from office
38 Thailand's main religion
39 Drill a hole
41 Chop finely
42 Talked back
44 Hollandaise & Tabasco
45 "__ Along, Little Dogies"
47 Breadth
48 Ponzi scheme
49 Part of the ear
50 Change for a five
53 __ beans
54 Pencil's core
56 Deuce
57 Consume
59 Steal from

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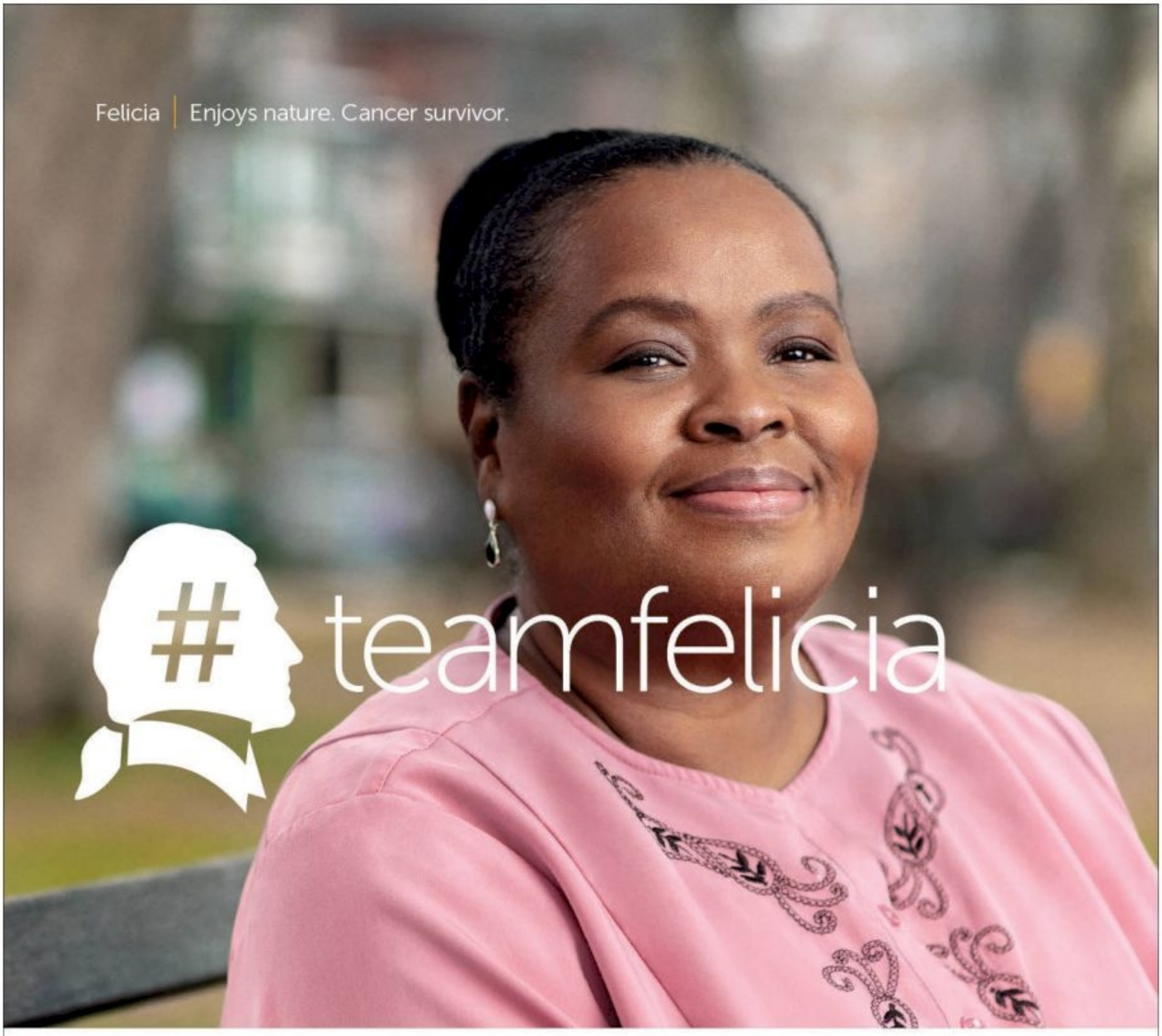

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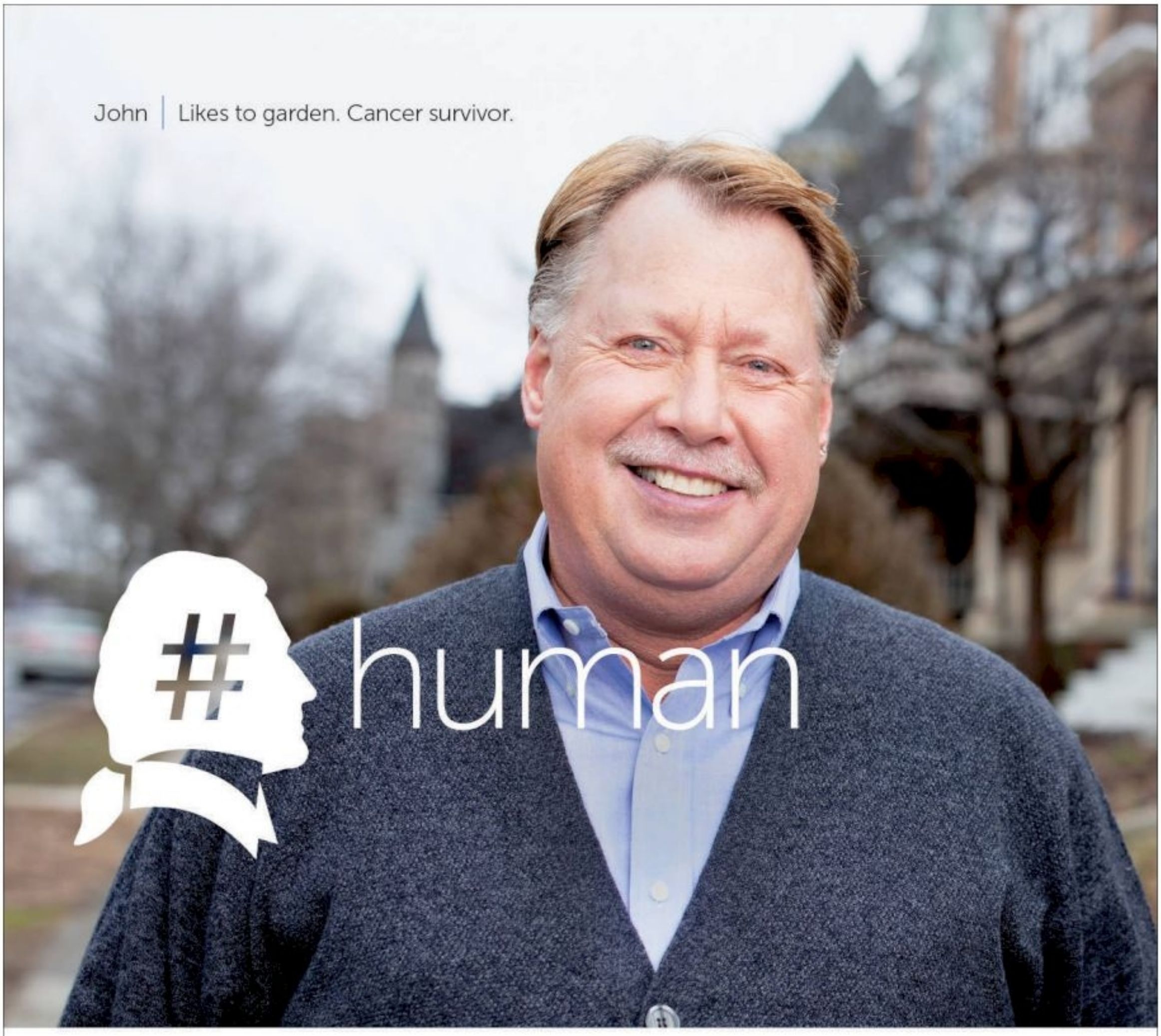

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